

Law of the game	U5 N/A	U6	U7	U8	U10	U12	U15
<b>1 – The Field of Play</b>	Should be longer than it is wide. Safe from debris and standing water.						
<b>2 – The Ball</b>	#3				#4		#5
<b>3 – # of Players</b>	3v3 (no goalie)	3v3 (no goalie)	4v4 (no goalie)	5v5	7v7	9v9	11v11
<b>4 – The Players' Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shin Guards with Shin guards under socks or covered by socks.</li> <li>- Cleats are not mandatory, but no cleats with a toe spike (usually found in baseball shoes)</li> <li>- No dangling earrings, necklaces or bracelets (unless medically necessary and taped down)</li> <li>- Players wearing a cast or splint need to be cleared by a board member at concession stand.</li> </ul>						
<b>5 – The Referee</b>	N/A	Be at field 15 - 20- minutes before game. Have shirt, stopwatch, and whistle. Referee shirt must be visible, i.e. worn over a sweatshirt					
<b>6 – The Assistant Referees</b>	Not Applicable.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Watch throw-ins for feet down, behind the line, and ball behind the head.</li> <li>- Assist the center referee with directional calls when ball goes out and foul calls.</li> </ul>		
<b>7 – Duration of the Match</b>	20 minute Practice before game. 16 minute halves 5 minute half time.		2 - 20 minute halves 5 minute half time.		25 minute halves 5 minute half time.		
<b>8 – The Start and Restart of Play</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Make sure both teams are on their side of field. And correct team kicks the ball to start.</li> <li>- Teams should not advance until ball is played (not when whistle is blown)</li> <li>-Players should give 5 yards for throw-in</li> </ul>						
<b>9 – The Ball In and Out of Play</b>	Out of bounds when the whole ball crosses the whole line.						
	- No out of bounds whistle. Coaches, referees and spectators can help to keep ball in play.	- Out of bounds play on touchline = Throw-in - Out of bounds play on Goal line = kick in from where ball went out	- Out of bounds play on touchline = Throw-in - Out of bounds play on Goal line = corner or goal kick. - Retreat rule is in effect	- Throw-ins from touch line - Goal kicks and Corner Kicks. - Retreat line* rule in effect for U10s only Note: Attacking players cannot pass the retreat line until the the ball is in play which means when the ball leaves the penalty area.			
<b>10 – The Method of Scoring</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Goals can only be counted if played on the side of the field the goal is on. (not kicked from the other half of field.</li> <li>- Cannot directly score from a throw-in or kick in</li> </ul>						
<b>11 – Offside</b>	Not Applicable.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Player must be in offside position and:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The player interferes with play; or</li> <li>2. Interferes with opponent; or</li> <li>3. Gains an advantage by being in the position</li> </ol> </li> <li>- Resets when the ball is touched by attacking team or the defending team plays the ball to a player in an offside position.</li> </ul>		
<b>12 – Fouls and Misconduct</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kicking, tripping, Jumping, Charging, Striking, Pushing, Tackling, Holding, Spitting, Handling, Slide Tackling. (IDFK in house, DFK for travel)</li> <li>- Keeper penalties - Touches ball with hands: more than 6 seconds, after releasing the ball, getting a DELIBERATE pass back from teammate, received directly from a throw-in from teammate. (IDFK)</li> <li>- Other - Impeding an opponent, interfering with goalkeeper releasing ball from hands. (IDFK)</li> <li>- Deliberately heading the ball for ages U10 and younger. (IDFK)</li> </ul>						
<b>13 – Free Kicks</b>	None	All free kicks are indirect. There are NO direct kicks or Penalty kicks. Cannot score from kickoff without the ball being touched by another player. Defender must be at least 5 yards away (10 yards for U12 & 14) 5 yards is about 5 large strides. coaches in younger divisions allowed on field to set up play for first two weeks of season.					
<b>14 – The Penalty Kick</b>	There are NO Penalty or Direct Kicks						
<b>15 – The Throw-in</b>	Not Applicable.	Feet on ground, behind the line, and ball comes behind the head (one foot can be on the line) Younger kids get second or third chance. Use common sense as the younger players are learning.					
<b>16 – The Goal Kick</b>	Not Applicable.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must be taken from goal box.</li> <li>- If there is a penalty area, the ball must leave penalty area before play</li> </ul>			
<b>17 – The Corner Kick</b>	Not Applicable.			Goal can be scored off corner kick. Defensive players should be at least 5 yards away from kicker (10 yards for U12 & 14). U8 coaches allowed on field to set up play for first two weeks of season.			
<b>Pay</b>	N/A	\$5	\$10	\$10	C-\$20 AR - \$10		
<b># of referees</b>	None	1	1	1	3		

Issue/Situation	Referee	Coach	Note:
Retreat Line	Can enforce the retreat rule. This is at their discretion and is usually done by our certified referees.	Work with your team to understand the rule. Work to enforce the rule during the game. If there is a large disparity in score (if one team is up by 4 or more) stress waiting to advance into the zone.  Use this link to learn more: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQ92Kfilwok">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQ92Kfilwok</a>	Retreat line rule is when the goalie has possession of the ball or there is a goal kick, the attacking team needs to retreat to the half (U7/8) or the retreat line (U10). for U7/8 the attacking team should wait for the ball to be received by a defender before advancing. In U10 the attacking team should wait for the ball to leave the penalty area before advancing.
Injured player	Call the coach if needed. The coach is responsible for helping the player.	Address injury and substitute if needed	Sometimes the referee will let play continue if play is away from injured player and they do not notice. If possible teach the players to kneel or "go down" if hurt so game can stop.
Bleeding player	Stop game and send the player to the coach	Address bleeding. Do not send back in if blood on uniform or if still bleeding.	If the referee denies reentry because of blood the coach should respect the decision. If there is a conflict address after the game with Board member.
Clarification of referee calls	Address coaches question as best as possible when asked.	Be calm and courteous if possible wait for a stoppage in play.	Coaches should ask for clarification if needed and not challenge the call. If the referee explanation is not consistent with the coaches understanding then please let the referee coordinator, assignor, or a board member know.
Unruly Spectators	Two options: 1. Address yourself by asking spectator to behave. 2. Ask the coach to address.	Two Options: 1. Address the unruly spectator. 2. Stop the game and find a board member to assist.	If the spectator has not cooperated, just stop the game until they leave. Put the focus on them, that they are holding up everyone's enjoyment.
Unruly Coaches	Two options: 1. address the coach in a calm and considerate manner. 2. Stop the game and head to the concession stand.	If there are two coaches please try and address anyone who may have been unruly.	When coaches become unruly it takes away from the enjoyment of the game for the players, referees, and spectators. When an issue cannot be resolved please request help from a board member.
Unruly players	Options: 1. address the player directly by giving them feedback on their actions and to stop unruly play. 2. Ask coach for help in controlling player. 3. After the game contact the referee coordinator for help with situational	Options: 1. Work with the referee to address player actions. 2. Remove the player from the game and provide feedback to player. 3. Remove player and talk with parents.	Referees and coaches are both responsible for managing the actions of players. However, as an adult, coaches should hold more responsibility for the actions of the players with respect to directly correcting the players actions.  We do not card players in rec league soccer.
Not enough players	Ask the coaches to share players or wait to see if more players arrive.	Work together to determine the best course of action: Share players, play short, play with less kids	The referee should work with the coaches to make the game fair. Playing is always easier then trying to make up a game.
Fouls	Options: 1. Call a foul. 2. if careless you can ask the coach to sit player for a little bit. 3. If player is being dangerous ask the coach to take the player out of the game.	Options: 1. support the call of the referee for a foul. 2. Address conduct if the referee asks you to take a player out. 3. If there is no call on a foul that is reckless or dangerous don't wait for the referee to address. Please be proactive in correcting players.	Not all fouls are created equal. A careless foul example is one where a player trips another by mistake. Reckless fouls are when a player runs out of control into another player knocking the other player down. Dangerous (excessive force) fouls are ones where one play may be mad at another and pushes them down or hits the other player. This should not be tolerated and should be addressed immediately.
Starts and restarts	1. Be sure the starts of the game are done correctly. 2. Be sure starts after goals are done correctly. 3. Use your whistle to stop the game and reset if needed.	1. prepare your team for the restart if possible. 2. if they do not restart correctly and the referee is resetting the restart, please coach the players on their responsibilities.	This happens in younger age groups. Please work together to help the kids learn the right way to restart.
Player with a cast or splint	Ask the coach if they checked the cast covering.	Coaches should make sure casts are covered with a soft covering that does not put players at risk of injury. Any splints with sharp edges need to be covered or removed.	We had players check in at the concession stand. Since we will not have a central location we are asking coaches to make sure that the cast is covered and that splints are safe for play.
Substitutions	When there is a stop in play, if the coach wants to substitute, wait until all the players have been substituted to restart the game.	1. Have players ready wait for referee to be ready for substitution. 2. If the players are old enough send them to the half and request a substitution. 3. Politely ask to substitute if needed and wait for referee to beckon the players on to the field.	The younger the kids are the harder it is to substitute in an orderly fashion. Try and teach the kids to go to the half to wait to be substituted if possible. This is clearly a coaching decision, but if the kids want to play travel they will need to learn to go to the half for substitutions.